

# **Craighead Environmental Research Institute**

## **Monthly Progress Report: March, 2008**

for the Montana Department of Transportation and Western  
Transportation Institute

Bozeman Pass Wildlife Monitoring

MSU banner number 426899

**1 March 2008 – 31 March 2008**

### **Task 1: Road Kill Surveys during March 2008**

Road kill surveys were conducted between Bozeman and Jackson Creek. Surveys were conducted on both sides of I-90 from Bozeman to Jackson Creek and back for a total of 22 miles round trip and an estimated 1 hour of labor per survey. Thirteen (13) road-kill surveys were driven during March of 2008. Three (3) of those recorded no new road-kill. This equals 286 miles driven in March for this subcontract. Totals of animals killed between Bozeman and Livingston were:

<b>Bozeman Pass Roadkill Totals</b>	<b>March</b>
<b>Species</b>	<b>Number</b>
Badger	0
Beaver	0
Bobcat	0
Bird Spp.	0
Black Bear	0
Cowbird	0
Coyote	1
Deer species	2
Dog	0
Domestic cat	0
Elk	0
Great Horned Owl	1
Hungarian (Gray) Partridge	0
Magpie	1
Mallard	0
Marmot	0
Meadowlark	0
Mink	0
Moose	0

Mule Deer	0
Pigeon	0
Porcupine	1
Rabbit	0
Raccoon	1
Red Fox	0
Snowshoe Hare	1
Skunk	2
Small mammal spp.	0
Weasel	0
White Tail Deer	10

### **Task 2: Track bed monitoring at the MRL Bridge in March 2008**

Because of snow conditions no opportunistic track bed sessions were completed in March

### **Task 3: Photo monitoring at fence ends through March 2008**

Cameras were not downloaded during March. Batteries for all remote cameras were operational.

### **Task 4: Infrared counter monitoring at jump-outs through March 2008**

The Trailmaster sensors are often triggered by false events and adjustment of counter sensitivity settings has been unable to make them reliable. They were not checked during March.

### **Task 5: Track bed monitoring at fence ends, jump-outs through March 2008**

Because of snow and freezing conditions, track beds were not opportunistically checked during March.

### **Task 6: Photo monitoring of culverts March 2008**

The culvert cameras were not downloaded in March. Batteries for all remote cameras were replaced at the end of October and should last through the winter.

### **Task 7: Opportunistic snow tracking at track bed, fence ends, jump-outs, and along the Interstate in March 2008.**

Snow conditions did not allow opportunistic tracking of highway crossings along the Interstate in March.

### **Task 8: Data Management & Reporting in March 2008**

Data entry and summary required two hours during March.